AMENDMENTS

Please replace paragraph 6 on page 2 of the Specification with the following:

[0006] Other transducer related materials are selected for acoustic properties. Matching layers are used PZT transducers to transition acoustic impedance from the transducer material to a patient. Where a wedge or block is designed to be placed between the transducer and the patient, the wedge or block has similar acoustic impedance to the patient. To avoid reflections from a surface of a wedge not contacting the surface of the transducer or patient, a ~~Rayliegh~~ Rayleigh dump in an absorbing material may be added to that surface.

Please replace paragraph 24 on page 7 of the Specification with the following:

[0024] Figure 2 shows incident acoustic energy 22 into a valley or dump formed in the surface 20. As the incident energy contacts the surface [[26]] 20, some of the energy reflects at an angle from the surface while some energy is passed through the surface. Following the first reflection, multiple reflections are repeated at decreasing angles. The decreasing angles approach an angle perpendicular to the two side walls of the surface 20, avoiding or minimizing reflections back towards the transducer material 12. After a number of reflections, the angle incident reaches 90 degrees and the acoustic wave begins to be reflected back towards the transducer material 12. Since the acoustic energy loses power with each reflection, minimal energy is reflected back to the ultrasound transducer 12.